

## **Linking Academic Performance of Children with Neighbourhood Services: A Gender Based Analysis**

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**ABSTRACT** This research investigated the effects of neighbourhood services on academic performance of secondary schools students and how different are these effects on the basis of students' gender. A multistage stratified sampling technique was adopted to portray information from a sample of 448 students. An interview schedule was used as the data collection tool. Chi square and Kendall's Tau-c tests were used to determine the level and direction of association among variables. The results showed that schools' quality ( $P=0.000$ ,  $\text{Tau-c}=0.122$ ), health facilities ( $P=0.027$ ,  $\text{Tau-c}=0.080$ ), playground ( $P=0.000$ ,  $\text{Tau-c}=0.162$ ), and arrangements of sports events ( $P=0.000$ ,  $\text{Tau-c}=0.257$ ) in the neighbourhood was significantly and positively associated with academic performance. Moreover, student gender explained variation in academic performance in association with neighbourhood services. It was concluded from the study's results that availability of services in neighbourhood positively contributed to better academic performance in children. In addition, female students with satisfaction from neighbourhood services were more liable to score high grades.